GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:481
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
USE OF VERMI CULTURE FERTILIZER BY FARMER
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that farmers in many States have increased their production by using `vermi culture fertilizer`;

(b) whether according to experiments done and studies conducted by non-Governmental voluntary organization involved in production and distribution of `vermi culture fertilizer` during the last three years, it has been found that production of crops increases and cost decreases when this fertilizer is used; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for using this technology extensively in agriculture dominant States?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Yes Sir. It has been observed that use of vermiculture fertilizers which is popularly known as vermicompost, when used alone or in conjunction with chemical fertilizers helps in improving the soil fertility, enhancement in crop yields and consequently reduction in cost of cultivation.

(c): The Government of India is promoting the use of various sources of organic manure assupplementary source of nutrients to crops including vermicompost.

Promotion of `vermiculture` for preparation of vermicompost from bio-degradable waste has been made as one of the activities in the Centrally Sponsored Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States.To establish vermicompost unit under this scheme funds upto Rs.30,000 per unit are provided. Besides, Department of Biotechnology has implemented a number of projects in the states of Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for training and demonstration on various aspects of vermicomposting and its use.

The Indian Council of Agriculture Research is implementing projects to furtherstandardize the technology for preparation of vermicompost.